

Introduced by Senator Evans

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Dickinson)

February 21, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 88—Relative to Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 88, as introduced, Evans. Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

This measure would declare the week of March 3, 2014, through March 9, 2014, as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The week of March 3, 2014, through March 9,
2 2014, has been declared Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week in
3 recognition of the importance of finding the cause of and a cure
4 for multiple sclerosis and to express appreciation to the National
5 Multiple Sclerosis Society and its California chapters; and

6 WHEREAS, Multiple sclerosis is a neurological disease of the
7 central nervous system that affects an estimated 400,000 Americans
8 across the country, and nearly 200 new cases are diagnosed each
9 week nationwide; and

10 WHEREAS, More than 40,000 people in California are affected
11 by this devastating disease; and

12 WHEREAS, Twice as many women as men have multiple
13 sclerosis and most are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50,
14 and while studies indicate genetic factors make certain individuals
15 more susceptible than others, there is no evidence that multiple
16 sclerosis is directly inherited; and

1 WHEREAS, The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, founded
2 in 1946, funds more research, offers more services for people with
3 multiple sclerosis, and provides more professional education
4 programs than any other multiple sclerosis organization in the
5 world. Through its 50-state network of chapters, the society serves
6 more than one million people annually; and

7 WHEREAS, The society is the largest private supporter of
8 multiple sclerosis research in the world, and for more than 55 years
9 it has funded innovative research and advocated for government
10 support of important scientific inquiries; and

11 WHEREAS, Throughout the years, the California chapters of
12 the society have been committed to heightening public knowledge
13 and insight, and are currently planning several major statewide
14 educational programs to raise awareness about the effects of
15 multiple sclerosis; now, therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature declares the week of
18 March 3, 2014, through March 9, 2014, is Multiple Sclerosis
19 Awareness Week and that the residents of the State of California
20 are encouraged to join together in raising awareness and
21 heightening public knowledge of this debilitating disease; and be
22 it further

23 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.